Reaffirming the goal set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,[10] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[11] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,[12]

Recognizing that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are therefore essential to achieving enhanced food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Expressing concern that the number of people suffering from hunger and poverty now exceeds one billion, which is an unacceptable blight on the lives, livelihoods and dignity of one sixth of the world's population, mostly in developing countries, and noting that the effects of long-standing underinvestment in food security, agriculture, and rural development have recently been further exacerbated by the food, financial and economic crises, among other factors,

Striving for a world free from hunger in which countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[13] and supporting the practical application of the guidelines based on the principles of participation, transparency and accountability,

Recognizing the importance of an enabling international and national environment to increase and sustain investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries and to create a more level playing field in agriculture through greater market access, substantial reduction of trade-distorting domestic support, and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect in accordance with the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,

Emphasizing the urgent need to increase efforts at the national, regional and international levels to address food security and agriculture development as an integral part of the international development agenda,

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[9] See resolution 55/2.

[10] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[11] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[12] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29).

[13] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, Rome, 22-27 November 2004* (CL 127/REP), appendix D; see also E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

Recognizing the need to foster strategic coordination for agriculture development and food security involving all actors at the national, regional and global levels to improve governance, promote better allocation of resources, avoid duplication of efforts and identify response gaps,

Recognizing also that a sense of urgency and a commitment to solving the global food crisis have served as catalysts for strengthening international coordination and governance for food security, through the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, of which the Committee on World Food Security is a central component, and reiterating that it is essential to enhance global governance, building on existing institutions and fostering effective partnerships,

Remaining deeply concerned at the high volatility of global food prices, including for basic food commodities, owing to, inter alia, structural and systemic problems,

Remaining deeply concerned also that the global financial and economic crisis, climate change and the food crisis pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger, as well as to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015 as well as the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response, including the adoption of political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Recognizing the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agriculture development and enhancing food security,

Acknowledging the work undertaken by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis,

Welcoming the recent appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition,

Taking note of the work to be undertaken, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, on the follow-up to the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, in view of its relevance to food security,

Noting the convening of the World Grain Forum on 6 and 7 June 2009 in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation,

Emphasizing that the United Nations can play an effective role in building a global consensus in addressing agriculture development and food security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[14]

2. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, and notes the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration;

[14] A/64/221.

3. *Stresses* that food security is central to poverty eradication, public health and sustainable economic growth, and the need for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agricultural, food security, nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to food;

4. *Also stresses* that achieving food security for all has as its core element the strengthening and revitalizing of the agricultural sector in developing countries, where it has been identified as a priority by Governments, including through enhanced international support, an enabling environment at all levels and the empowerment of small-scale farmers, indigenous peoples and other rural communities, and stresses the need for the involvement of women, in particular in decision-making;

5. *Underlines* the importance of enhancing synergies between agriculture, food security and development policies and strategies at both the national and international levels, including by prioritizing and mainstreaming agriculture and food security into development policies;

6. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to create a strong enabling environment for enhancing agricultural production, productivity and sustainability, developing strong agricultural value chains and improving farmers' and agro-industry access to and participation in markets;

7. *Welcomes* the strengthening of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions and international trade, financial and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as the strengthening of cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the private sector in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development and food security;

8. *Expresses its support* for initiatives and actions to strengthen governance for agriculture development and food security and for the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, which will strive to achieve strategic coordination of efforts at the national, regional and global levels, building on existing structures, ensuring inclusiveness of participation and promoting a genuine bottom-up approach based on field-level experiences and developments;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Committee on World Food Security, as a platform for discussion and coordination to strengthen collaborative action, to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those most affected by food insecurity, are heard, supports the important roles of the Committee, particularly in areas of coordination at the global level, policy convergence and facilitated support and advice to countries and regions, and affirms that, within the context of the implementation plan laid down in the reform of the Committee, it will gradually take on additional roles, such as promoting coordination at the national and regional levels, promoting accountability and sharing best practices at all levels, and developing a global strategic framework for food security and nutrition;

10. *Underlines* the need for sustained funding and increased targeted investment to enhance world food production, and calls for new and additional

financial resources from all sources to achieve sustainable agriculture development and food security;

11. *Stresses* the urgent need to increase the share of official development assistance devoted to agriculture and food security based on country-led requests, and encourages international financial institutions and regional development banks to do likewise;

12. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels to intensify public and private investment in the agriculture sector, including through public-private partnerships;

13. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, to enhance the productivity of food crops, and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

14. *Underlines* the importance of the conservation of, access to, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, in accordance with national law and international agreements;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to mobilize the resources needed to increase productivity, including the review, approval and adoption of biotechnology and other new technologies and innovations that are safe, effective and environmentally sustainable;

16. *Promotes* research for food and agriculture, including research to adapt to and mitigate climate change, and access to research results and technologies at national, regional and international levels, including through the international research centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international and regional research organizations;

17. *Recognizes* that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agriculture technology can play an important role in helping developing countries to eradicate poverty and hunger and achieve global food security, and calls upon the international community to make greater efforts to promote the development and transfer of appropriate technologies and know-how on mutually agreed terms to developing countries;

18. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening North-South, as well as South-South and triangular cooperation, and enhancing support from the United Nations development system in promoting cooperation in agriculture development and food security;

19. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national social safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash for work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes;

20. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholders and women, in community, domestic, regional and international markets;

21. *Underlines* the importance of the provision of, and the unhindered access to, safe emergency food and humanitarian assistance and support for the most

vulnerable populations, recognizes the value of local purchase of food supplies, which supports local markets, and stresses the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes for food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes, and the benefits of consultation and notification of any such new restrictions;

22. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of domestic, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all, especially smallholders and women farmers from developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with World Trade Organization rules aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and compete on a more equal footing on world markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

23. *Recognizes* the urgency of, and reaffirming its commitment to, reaching a successful and timely conclusion by 2010 to the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced outcome as a key action to improve food security;

24. *Also recognizes* the need for Africa to embark on a green revolution to help boost agricultural productivity, food production and regional food security, welcomes the strong leadership taken by African countries in undertaking initiatives to address the challenges of sustainable agricultural development and to achieve food security, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, that can provide a framework through which support for agriculture and food security can be coordinated, and calls upon the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[15]

25. *Reaffirms* the commitment to a crucial, decisive shift towards increased short-, medium- and long-term national and international investment in agriculture in developing countries, welcomes the commitment made by African leaders in the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa to raise the share of agriculture and rural development in their budget expenditures to at least 10 per cent, and encourages other geographical regions to adopt similar quantitative, time-bound commitments;

26. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption of the Windhoek High-level Ministerial Declaration on African Agriculture in the Twenty-first Century: Meeting the Challenges, Making a Sustainable Green Revolution, on 10 February 2009;[16]

27. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

28. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security is a national responsibility, and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and eradication of poverty in relation

[15] A/57/304, annex.

[16] See A/63/740, annex.

to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led, and built on consultation with all key stakeholders, and urges Member States to make food security a high priority and reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

29. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, national and regional efforts by developing countries to implement long-term policies and measures that contribute to food security and agricultural development, such as the food security fund of some Latin American and Caribbean countries, the Latin American and the Caribbean without Hunger 2025 initiative, adopted at the twenty-ninth Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Caracas from 24 to 28 April 2006, the Presidential Summit on Sovereignty and Food Security: Foods for Life, held in Managua on 7 May 2008, the Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security, adopted at the thirteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 3 July 2009, the Emergency Programme for Arab Food Security launched at the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, held in Kuwait on 19 and 20 January 2009, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security Reserve, and the Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

30. *Underlines* the importance of the initiatives and commitments undertaken by the international community to enhance development of the agricultural sector and food security in developing countries, and of their full realization and implementation in a timely and reliable manner;

31. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the commitments made at the Group of Eight Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009, to act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security,[17] and welcomes the commitments made by the countries represented at L'Aquila towards a goal of mobilizing 20 billion dollars over three years through this coordinated, comprehensive strategy focused on sustainable agriculture development;

32. *Invites* all members of the international community, including international and regional financial institutions, and urges relevant bodies within the United Nations system, to cooperate actively in a coordinated manner in the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security adopted in Rome in November 2009;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that a coordinated follow-up at the field level to the World Summit on Food Security is undertaken in the context of the resident coordinator system, taking into account the coordinated follow-up to United Nations major international conferences;

34. *Invites* the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security to report, as part of the Committee's report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the reform of and on progress made towards achieving the vision of the Committee;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution and the progress of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security;

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[17] See A/63/927-S/2009/358, annex.

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", to be allocated to the Second Committee.

66th plenary meeting
21 December 2009